13: Jenness--91
116, 164, 744

(1914-1916) 1917

Copper Eskimo

"At present these people are very healthy and without any serious ailments. The population appears to be about stationary, owing to a low birth-rate and a high death-rate, the result of the hardships of life in the Arctic. But if ever the diseases which have swept through the western Eskimos find their way into this country, more especially measles, tuberculosis, and venereal diseases, half the population would probably be swept away within a decade or two. The two latter diseases, if once introduced, would be ineradicable; they would be handed down from one generation to the next, as in the Mackenzie Delta at the present day. Possibly their introduction is inevitable, but since Herschel Island is the chief portal leading into the country at the present time, there would seem to be some prospect of successfully keeping them out if no one, white or native, were allowed to sail from that port eastward to Coronation Gulf without a medical certificate from the medical officer resident in the Delta; anyone found in the country of the Copper Eskimos without such a certificate could be made liable to immediate deportation."